The City of Lynchburg Review of Bank One Credit Card Purchases City Assessor's Office January 5, 2005



Prepared by the Department of Internal Audit

Introduction

The Department of Internal Audit performs reviews of charge card purchases throughout the City on a routine basis. These audits are performed on records of departments or sub-departments that are selected with the goal of providing city-wide coverage and continuous monitoring of the expenses.

Departments are responsible for printing individual monthly statements from Bank One's electronic report generation system, reconciling receipts/charge slips to the monthly transactions on the statements and submitting monthly Bank One payment forms with reconciled expenditures and distribution codes to Accounts Payable in Financial Services. Our audit of Bank One expenditures of the City Assessor's Office was performed as one of the regularly scheduled standard audits on the annual internal audit plan.

Review Objectives

The purpose of the review was to determine that:

- Charges are supported by an invoice;
- Invoices and/or statements are properly approved;
- Receiving documents are present (where applicable);
- Charges and payments are appropriate and accurately recorded;
- Card authorization forms are on file for employees; and
- Disputed charges and/or returns are resolved in a timely manner

Scope of Work

We interviewed personnel in the City Assessor's Office and reviewed support documentation for transactions posted on the reporting system during the period of 9/27/04 through 12/26/04. We tested 100% transactions for that period. We also determined the accuracy of accounting codes and the payments to Bank One for monthly departmental charges, and verified that signed employee authorization forms were on file in Procurement

The audit was conducted in accordance with professional internal auditing and generally accepted governmental auditing standards specified in the City's Internal Audit Charter and, accordingly, included such tests of records and other audit procedures as were considered necessary in the circumstances.

The Internal Audit Department is free from organizational impairments to independence in our reporting as defined by government auditing standards. We report directly to an audit committee and, administratively to the city manager and are organizationally outside the staff or line management function of the areas we audit.

Opinion On Internal Controls

The objectives of a system of internal control are to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management authorization and are properly recorded.

Based on our review, we concluded that the system of internal controls provides reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded and transactions were made in accordance with City policy.

Audit Conclusions

Based on the results of our review, we conclude that...

- Expenditures were adequately supported by an invoice
- Invoices and statements are properly approved;
- Receiving documentation was on file;
- Charges were reasonable;
- Transactions were accurately recorded;
- Card authorization forms were on file for employees; and
- Disputed charges and/or returns were resolved in a timely manner.

Other Comments:
We appreciate the time and assistance received from the department's Bank One Coordinator, Kelly Elledge, during this review.
Carol J. Bibb
Michelle B. Kuhn